

COURT PARTICIPANTS

JUDGE

The Judge in a case is the person who acts as the “referee” in the trial; decides what happens in the courtroom next and settles arguments between attorneys. The Judge is considered an impartial (doesn’t take sides) participant.

DUTIES OF JUDGE:

- Welcomes everyone to court.
- Tells everyone what the case is about.
- Asks jurors if they can be fair in reaching their decisions
- After the jury’s deliberations (discussions about guilty or innocence),
The judge asks the jury foreman what the verdict is.

COURTROOM DEPUTY

The courtroom deputy takes down a summary of what happens in court. Most importantly, the courtroom deputy swears in witnesses:

(Ask each to raise their right hand and you also raise your right hand)

“Do you swear to tell the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?”

The courtroom deputy also swears in the jury when they leave the courtroom to begin their deliberations:

(Ask each to raise their right hand and you also raise your right hand)

“Do each of you swear to find a truthful verdict (decision of guilty or innocence) in this case to the best of your ability and considering only the facts as presented to you?”

BAILIFF

The bailiff is an employee of the court that opens court and introduces the judge to everyone in the courtroom

Court opening: “All rise. Hear ye!! Hear ye!! Hear ye!! The United States District Court for the District of Idaho is now in session. The Honorable Judge Wopner is presiding (to guide or direct an meeting, or event)

When court is finished and the jurors are going to go deliberate:

“All rise. The court is now in recess.”

When the jury returns: “All rise, the court is now back in session.”

After everything is done: “All rise. This session of court is now concluded. God bless this court and our country.”

JURORS

The jurors listen to all the evidence presented and tell the judge is they think about the case. In a criminal case the jurors can decide if the defendant is guilty of one or more of the crimes charged, not guilty to one or more of the crimes charged, or they can agree that they can not come to a unanimous (everybody agrees) decision. If the jury cannot come to a unanimous decision, this is called a mistrial.

At the beginning of the jury's deliberations, they will elect a foreman who will act as the leader of the discussions. The foreman is also the person stands up in court and tells the judge what the jury's verdict is.

GOVERNMENT representing the Three Bears

The government attorneys are known as the prosecution because they represent the best interests of the public by prosecuting criminal behavior.

In the Jury Trial, the Prosecution begins to present it's case by each government attorney presenting an Opening Statement. An Opening Statement is a short explanation of why they think that Goldilocks broke the law, what crimes it is that she allegedly (accused, not yet proven) committed and how they are going to prove it.

DEFENSE representing Goldilocks

The attorneys for the accused are known as defense attorneys because they defend the rights of the defendant who is being accused of a crime.

In the Jury Trial, after the Prosecution presents it's Opening Statement , the defense attorneys also get to stand up and give a short explanation of why they think that Goldilocks IS not guilty of the crimes charged.

WITNESSES

The prosecution calls their witnesses first and then the defense will call their witnesses. After each witness is called, the opposite side is allowed to ask questions. This is called cross-examination. Witness can be experts, or witnesses who know some facts about the case. The victims and the defendant may also testify.